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ABSTRACT

Following a legislative mandate that requires public four-year colleges and universities in Virginia to report to community colleges the academic progress of their transfer students, eight senior institutions submitted progress data for 1991-92 to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC). An analysis of those data revealed the following: (1) 306 former PVCC students were enrolled in Virginia public four-year institutions, including 135 (44.1%) PVCC graduates; (2) 55.8% (n=121) of the transfer students continued studying their PVCC major after transfer; (3) the PVCC instructional program with the largest number of transfers was Business Administration, making up 24.2% (n=74) of all transfer students; (4) Liberal Arts (23.9%) and General Studies (12.1%) accounted for the next largest percentages of transfers; (5) 1991-92 PVCC transfers attempted an average of 36 credits at the four-year institutions, completed an average of 34 credits, and earned an average of 81 total credits at all schools attended; (6) the average grade point average (GPA) for the 1991-92 transfers at the four-year schools was 2.813, while the average pre-transfer PVCC GPA was 3.267; and (7) students who transferred before graduating PVCC performed academically about as well as PVCC graduates, although students who kept their major at the four-year institution performed slightly better than those who did not. (MAB)

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The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1991-92)

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Piedmont Virginia Community College
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Research Report
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July 1993

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Brief No. 93-6

PVCC Institutional Research Brief July 1993

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1991-92)

Guideline 8 of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) *Guidelines for Student Assessment* requires public four-year colleges and universities to report to any community college from which 5 or more students transferred the academic progress of those students. Eight senior institutions--Christopher Newport University (CNU), George Mason University (GMU), James Madison University (JMU), Longwood College (LW), Old Dominion University (ODU), the University of Virginia (UVa), Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI), and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU)--submitted data to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) for the 1991-92 academic year, and the analysis of and conclusions drawn from those data are reported in the study, *The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1991-92)* (PVCC Institutional Research Report No. 4-93, July 1993). This brief highlights that study.

Three-hundred and six former PVCC students and graduates were enrolled at Virginia public four-year colleges and universities in 1991-92. One-hundred thirty-five (44.1%) of these were graduates of PVCC, and the majority (n=121; 55.8%) majored in the same subject area they had majored in at PVCC.

The PVCC instructional program with the largest number of transfers was the Business Administration degree program (Associate of Science [A.S.]). In all, 74 (or 24.2% of all 1991-92 transfers) were Business Administration students at PVCC, and 57 (77%) of these had graduated from PVCC. Forty-two (56.8%) of the Business Administration students majored in Business after transfer.

Almost as many of the transfers (n=73; 23.9%) had been enrolled in the Liberal Arts degree program (Associate of Arts [A.A.]) at PVCC. Twenty-four (32.9%) of the Liberal Arts students graduated from PVCC before transferring, and 44 (60.3%) chose liberal arts majors. The third PVCC program with a large number of transfers was General Studies (A.S.). Thirty-seven (12.1%) General Studies students transferred, and of these, 10 (27%) received degrees from PVCC prior to transfer.

Other programs from which students transferred were Science (A.S.; n=17), Education (A.S.; n=16), Nursing (Associate of Applied Science [A.A.S.]; n=13), Fine Arts (A.A.; n=6), Drafting and Design (A.A.S.; n=4), Management (A.A.S.; n=3),

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Career Studies (Certificate; n=3), Marketing (A.A.S.; n=2), Police Science (A.A.S.; n=2), Clerical Studies (Certificate; n=1), Engineering (A.S.; n=1), and Secretarial Science (A.A.S.; n=1). Forty-seven (16.9%) of the transfers were noted as non-degree students in the VCCS student database. In all likelihood, a number of these were enrolled in degree programs at PVCC. However, due to difficulties in accurately coding a student's program on the computer, as well as problems with the computer program itself, errors can (and do) occur. None of these "non-degree" students were graduates of PVCC.

The average number of credits attempted by the 1991-92 PVCC transfers was 36, and the average number completed was 34. The average number of total credits earned was 81. Total credits consist of credits earned at all schools, including PVCC, which a transfer student has attended.

The average GPA (Grade Point Average) of the 1991-92 transfers at the four-year schools was 2.813. This was probably comparable to the average GPA of students beginning their study at the four-year institutions. Before transfer, at PVCC, the average GPA was 3.267. In all PVCC programs except Nursing and Secretarial Science, the four-year GPA was lower than the PVCC GPA. The Nursing students earned a four-year GPA of 3.433. Other PVCC programs in which transfers earned an average GPA of 3.0 or higher at senior institutions, and in which more than one transfer student was reported, were Fine Arts (3.113), Career Studies (3.104), and Management (3.028). The average GPA of the 52 students listed as non-degree was also above a 3.0 (3.002).

Students who transferred to four-year schools before graduating from PVCC performed academically about as well as PVCC graduates who transferred. The four-year GPA of PVCC graduates was 2.801, and the GPA of non-graduates was 2.821. On the other hand, PVCC transfers whose major at the senior institution was the same as at PVCC performed slightly better academically than those who had different majors. The GPA of those with the same major was 2.856, and the GPA of those with different majors was 2.646.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1991-92)

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THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC STUDENTS TRANSFERRING TO VIRGINIA PUBLIC SENIOR INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION (1991-92)

INTRODUCTION

In 1987 the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) formulated and published *Guidelines for Student Assessment* , a document designed to assist college and universities in assessing and reporting the outcomes of undergraduate education. Guideline 8 of that document required that all public senior institutions of higher education in the state enrolling 5 or more transfer students from any Virginia Community College System (VCCS) institution during an academic year collect data on those students and share them with the community college. The format and scope of the data were to be determined jointly by the senior institution and the community college.

Guideline 8 data were first reported by senior institutions to community colleges in 1989 for community college students transferring during the 1988-89 academic year. Eight senior institutions provided data to Piedmont Virginia Community College (PVCC) and an analysis of those data was reported in *The Academic Performance of PVCC Transfers to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1988-89).*[1]

Three major limitations of Guideline 8 data were noted in this study. First, both the content and format of the data were inconsistent from one senior institution to another. As noted in the study,

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[1]Institutional Research Report No. 3-90, May 1990.

One institution supplied all data on two floppy disks in dBase III Plus files with report forms available; another supplied data in dBase III Plus files; a third supplied data on a floppy disk in ASCII (text) format; a fourth supplied a written report generated by SAS, one page per student; another supplied a one-page report listing PVCC transfers in table format; and finally, one sent student transcripts of all PVCC transfers.

Second, and more importantly, two of the senior institutions refused to share "student-identifiable" information with PVCC. These two institutions stated that releasing any information by which an individual student could be identified would violate the privacy rights of that student. The end result was that PVCC staff and faculty could not know in which PVCC programs the transfer students were enrolled, and so, for purposes of academic review and program evaluation, the data were nearly meaningless.

The third limitation concerned the time frame of the data. Two institutions supplied information on only those students admitted in the fall of 1988; three reported on all transfers enrolling during the 1988-89 year; and two furnished data on PVCC transfers during the 1987-88 year. The final limitation concerned the definition of a *transfer student*. Quite simply, the definition varied considerably from one senior institution to another.

The following year, seven senior colleges and universities shared Guideline 8 data with PVCC. Although the same limitations were noted, the Office of Institutional Research and Planning did analyze the data, and wherever possible, added information on transfer students' programs of study at PVCC. The results of this analysis were reported internally and used for assessment and academic program review.

For the 1990-91 academic year, 7 Virginia senior colleges and universities shared with PVCC information on PVCC students who had transferred to these institutions. For the first time, all institutions provided "student identifiable" data, and in reporting the

results, only PVCC students enrolled at the senior institutions in 1990-91 were included. The results were reported in *The Academic Performance of PVCC Students Transferring to Virginia Public Senior Institutions of Higher Education (1990-91).*[2]

For the 1991-92, 8 Virginia senior colleges and universities agreed to share with PVCC information on PVCC students who had transferred to these institutions during the year. These schools were Christopher Newport University (CNU), George Mason University (GMU), James Madison University (JMU), Longwood College (LW), Old Dominion University (ODU), the University of Virginia (UVa), Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (VPI), and Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU). All 8 agreed to provide "student identifiable" information, and by spring 1993, data had been received from all schools. This study presents an analysis of those data. In terms of content and format, it is similar to last year's study.

[2]Institutional Research Report No. 3-92, May 1992.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GENERAL)

Three-hundred and six former PVCC students and graduates were enrolled at Virginia public four-year colleges and universities in 1991-92. One-hundred thirty-five (44.1%) of these were graduates of PVCC, and the majority (n=121; 55.8%) majored in the same subject area they had majored in at PVCC. Table 1 presents information on 1991-92 transfers by both PVCC program of study and four-year school attended.

The PVCC instructional program with the largest number of transfers was the Business Administration degree program (Associate of Science [A.S.]). In all, 74 (or 24.2% of all 1991-92 transfers) were Business Administration students at PVCC, and 57 (77%) of these had graduated from PVCC. Forty-two (56.8%) of the Business Administration students majored in Business after transfer.

Almost as many of the transfers (n=73; 23.9%) had been enrolled in the Liberal Arts degree program (Associate of Arts [A.A.]) at PVCC. Twenty-four (32.9%) of the Liberal Arts students graduated from PVCC before transferring, and 44 (60.3%) chose liberal arts majors. The third PVCC program with a large number of transfers was General Studies (A.S.). Thirty-seven (12.1%) General Studies students transferred, and of these, 10 (27%) received degrees from PVCC prior to transfer.

Other programs from which students transferred were Science (A.S.; n=17), Education (A.S.; n=16), Nursing (Associate of Applied Science [A.A.S.]; n=13), Fine Arts (A.A.; n=6), Drafting and Design (A.A.S.; n=4), Management (A.A.S.; n=3), Career Studies (Certificate; n=3), Marketing (A.A.S.; n=2), Police Science (A.A.S.; n=2), Clerical

TABLE 1: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Public Four-Year Colleges and Universities (1991-92)

PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration: GMU	1		1		28	--	90	2.931	2.820
Business Administration: JMU	27	8	15	20	43	40	90	3.113	2.616
Business Administration: LW	5	1	4	2	29	28	86	2.955	2.263
Business Administration: ODU	2	1		3	30	28	118	3.492	2.919
Business Administration: UVA	18	5	19	4	27	27	88	3.450	2.829
Business Administration: VCU	2	2	3	1	14	12	67	3.459	2.620
Business Administration: VPI	2			2	40	40	82	3.211	2.888
Total Business	57	17	32	32	35	33	89	3.194	2.665
Career Studies: JMU		1		1	82	76	125	3.384	2.682
Career Studies: UVA		1		1	16	16	80	4.000	3.769
Career Studies: VCU		1		1	29	29	68	4.000	3.930
Total Career Studies	0	3	0	3	42	40	91	3.518	3.104
Clerical Studies: UVA	1			1	45	45	104	3.843	3.800
Total Clerical	1	0	0	1	45	45	104	3.843	3.800
Drafting & Design: JMU	1	1		2	23	17	43	2.917	1.733
Drafting & Design: UVA	2		1	1	23	23	86	3.511	2.826
Total Drafting	3	1	1	3	23	20	64	3.253	2.285
Education: GMU		1		1	26	--	86	2.621	2.190
Education: JMU	7	2	5	4	43	40	100	3.305	3.098
Education: LW	1	1		2	28	28	88	2.714	2.959
Education: UVA	1	1	1	1	47	45	111	3.314	2.807
Education: VCU		1		1	19	19	67	3.980	3.680
Education: VPI		1	1		28	23	67	3.018	2.610
Total Education	9	7	7	9	38	37	95	3.200	2.997
Electronics: VPI	1			1	26	21	58	2.698	1.760
Total Electronics	1	0	0	1	26	21	58	2.698	1.760
Engineering: UVA		1	1		14	11	48	4.000	1.564
Total Engineering	0	1	1	0	14	11	48	4.000	1.564
Fine Arts: JMU	1	1	2		60	60	91	3.624	3.496
Fine Arts: UVA	1			1	59	59	134	3.490	3.061
Fine Arts: VCU		3	3		20	17	31	3.149	2.392
Total Fine Arts	2	4	5	1	40	38	68	3.420	3.113
General Studies: GMU		1	N/A	N/A	26	--	38	2.484	2.730
General Studies: JMU	4	9	N/A	N/A	55	50	82	3.252	2.656
General Studies: LW	1		N/A	N/A	30	23	92	2.417	1.700
General Studies: ODU	1	2	N/A	N/A	24	22	59	2.723	2.640
General Studies: UVA	3	12	N/A	N/A	28	25	75	3.565	2.913
General Studies: VCU	1	3	N/A	N/A	24	20	52	2.864	2.312
Total General Studies	10	27	N/A	N/A	37	34	73	3.261	2.690
Liberal Arts: GMU		1	1		30	--	82	3.297	3.500
Liberal Arts: JMU	8	14	12	10	65	61	103	3.184	2.689
Liberal Arts: LW	1	1	2		31	28	77	2.794	2.440
Liberal Arts: UVA	14	30	26	18	27	26	79	3.586	3.029
Liberal Arts: VCU		2	2		22	21	76	2.592	3.112
Liberal Arts: VPI	1	1	1	1	34	34	81	2.888	2.589
Total Liberal Arts	24	49	44	29	39	37	86	3.388	2.840

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PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Management: JMU	1		1		14	14	70	3.439	2.857
Management: UVA	2		1	1	50	50	107	3.540	3.052
Total Management	3	0	2	1	38	38	94	3.515	3.028
Marketing: UVA	1	1		2	18	18	78	3.615	2.747
Total Marketing	1	1	0	2	18	18	78	3.615	2.747
Nursing: UVA	11		11		14	14	65	3.145	3.416
Nursing: VCU	2		2		16	16	52	2.795	3.514
Total Nursing	13	0	13	0	14	14	63	3.120	3.433
Police Science: JMU	2			2	43	35	77	3.304	2.553
Total Police Science	2	0	0	2	43	35	77	3.304	2.553
Science: GMU	1	1	1	1	19	--	77	2.453	1.540
Science: JMU	1		1		29	21	71	3.950	3.068
Science: ODU		2		2	30	25	73	3.000	2.226
Science: UVA	7	4	4	7	20	18	76	3.412	2.243
Science: VPI		1		1	24	16	54	2.233	1.960
Total Science	9	8	6	11	22	19	74	3.214	2.216
Secretarial Science: VCU		1		1	29	23	88	1.837	2.030
Total Secretarial Science	0	1	0	1	29	23	88	1.837	2.030
Non Degree: CNU		2	N/A	N/A	25	23	40	2.974	2.618
Non Degree: GMU		3	N/A	N/A	28	--	68	3.070	2.121
Non Degree: JMU		20	N/A	N/A	69	64	74	2.881	2.868
Non Degree: ODU		2	N/A	N/A	31	28	110	3.875	3.595
Non Degree: UVA		23	N/A	N/A	29	29	78	3.729	3.332
Non Degree: VCU		2	N/A	N/A	23	23	40	3.184	3.389
Total Non Degree	0	52	N/A	N/A	44	43	74	3.344	3.002

PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Grand Totals	135	171	121	96	36	34	81	3.267	2.813

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Studies (Certificate; n=1), Engineering (A.S.; n=1), and Secretarial Science (A.A.S.; n=1). Forty-seven (16.9%) of the transfers were noted as non-degree students in the VCCS student database. None of these "non-degree" students were graduates of PVCC.[3]

The average number of credits attempted by the 1991-92 PVCC transfers was 36, and the average number completed was 34. The average number of total credits earned was 81. Total credits consist of credits earned at all schools, including PVCC, which a transfer student has attended.

The average GPA (Grade Point Average) of the 1991-92 transfers at the four-year schools was 2.813. This was probably comparable to the average GPA of students beginning their study at the four-year institutions. Before transfer, at PVCC, the average GPA was 3.267. In all PVCC programs except Nursing and Secretarial Science, the four-year GPA was lower than the PVCC GPA. The Nursing students earned a four-year GPA of 3.433. Other PVCC programs in which transfers earned an average GPA of 3.0 or higher at senior institutions, and in which more than one transfer student was reported, were Fine Arts (3.113), Career Studies (3.104), and Management (3.028). The average GPA of the 52 students listed as non-degree was also above a 3.0 (3.002).

Students who transferred to four-year schools before graduating from PVCC performed academically about as well as PVCC graduates who transferred. The four-year GPA of PVCC graduates was 2.801, and the GPA of non-graduates was 2.821. On the other hand, PVCC transfers whose major at the senior institution was the same as at

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[3]In all likelihood, a number of these were enrolled in degree programs at PVCC. However, due to difficulties in accurately coding a student's program on the computer, as well as problems with the computer program itself, errors can (and do) occur.

PVCC performed slightly better academically than those who had different majors. The GPA of those with the same major was 2.856, and the GPA of those with different majors was 2.646.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (CHRISTOPHER NEWPORT UNIVERSITY)

As can be seen in Table 2, of the 2 transfers to CNU in 1991-92, none was a graduate of PVCC, and both were shown in the PVCC database as non-degree. One majored in history at CNU and the other majored in Computer Information Systems.

TABLE 2: PVCC Transfers to Christopher Newport University (1991-92)

PVCC Program / CNU	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Non Degree		2		2	25	23	40	2.974	2.618
All Programs	0	2	0	2	25	23	40	2.974	2.618

The average number of credits attempted at CNU was 25, the average number completed was 23, and the average number of total credits was 40. The average GPA was 2.618. This average GPA was lower than the average GPA for all PVCC transfers and suggests that the two transfers to CNU may have performed slightly lower academically than other students at CNU. Because only two students were reported, however, the results are inconclusive.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (GEORGE MASON UNIVERSITY)

As can be seen in Table 3, of the 9 transfers to GMU in 1991-92, 2 were graduates of PVCC. Two of the transfers had majored in Science at PVCC. Of the remaining transfers, one had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, one in Education, one in General Studies, one in Liberal Arts, and three were listed as non-degree in the PVCC student database. Three of the transfers majored in related subjects at GMU (one in Business Administration, one in Liberal Arts, and one in Science), and two did not.

TABLE 3: PVCC Transfers to George Mason University (1991-92)

PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt	Avg Cred Complete	Avg Total	Avg PVCC	Avg 4-Yr
GMU	YES	NO	YES	NO	4-Yr	4-Yr	Credits	GPA	GPA
Business Administration	1		1		28	--	90	2.931	2.820
Education		1		1	26	--	86	2.621	2.190
General Studies		1	N/A	N/A	26	--	38	2.484	2.730
Liberal Arts		1	1		30	--	82	3.297	3.500
Science	1	1	1	1	19	--	77	2.453	1.540
Non Degree		3	N/A	N/A	28	--	68	3.070	2.121
All Programs	2	7	3	2	26	--	73	2.737	2.368

The average number of credits attempted at GMU was 26, and the number of total credits was 73. The average GPA at GMU for all 9 transfers was 2.368. The lowest GPA of any transfer at GMU was 1.37931 and the highest 3.50. Two of the transfers had GPA's lower than 2.0, 3 had GPA's between 2.0 and 2.5, 2 had GPA's between 2.5 and 3.0, and 2 had GPA's above 3.0.

Because 5 of the 9 transfers had GPA's lower than 2.5, and because the average GPA at GMU was one of the lower averages of any senior institution reporting data to PVCC, one can only assume that the PVCC transfers to GMU did not perform as well academically as other students at GMU. Note, however, that the average GPA of the

GMU transfers at PVCC was also one of the lower GPA's of any group of transfer students. In this respect, the transfer students to GMU were not among PVCC's best academically, and their performance at GMU reflects this.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY)

One-hundred eight former PVCC students were enrolled at JMU in 1991-92 (see Table 4). Slightly less than one-half were graduates of PVCC (48.1%) and majored at JMU in the same subject area they had at PVCC (48%). By far, the largest number had been enrolled in the Business Administration program at PVCC (n=35; 32.4%), and of these, 27 (77.1%) were PVCC graduates and 15 (42.9%) majored in Business at JMU. Other PVCC programs in which the JMU transfers had been enrolled were Liberal Arts (n=22), General Studies (n=13), Education (n=9), Drafting and Design (n=2), Fine Arts (n=2), Police Science (n=2), Career Studies (n=1), Management (n=1), and Science (n=1). Twenty JMU transfers were listed as non-degree in the PVCC database.

TABLE 4: PVCC Transfers to James Madison University (1991-92)

PVCC Program	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt	Avg Cred Complete	Avg Total	Avg PVCC	Avg 4-Yr
JMU	YES	NO	YES	NO	4-Yr	4-Yr	Credits	GPA	GPA
Business Administration	27	8	15	20	43	40	90	3.113	2.616
Career Studies		1		1	82	76	125	3.384	2.682
Drafting & Design	1	1		2	23	17	43	2.917	1.733
Education	7	2	5	4	43	40	100	3.305	3.098
Fine Arts	1	1	2		60	60	91	3.624	3.496
General Studies	4	9	N/A	N/A	55	50	82	3.252	2.656
Liberal Arts	8	14	12	10	65	61	103	3.184	2.689
Management	1		1		14	14	70	3.439	2.857
Police Science	2			2	43	35	77	3.304	2.553
Science	1		1		29	21	71	3.950	3.068
Non Degree		20	N/A	N/A	69	64	74	2.881	2.868
All Programs	52	56	36	39	54	50	88	3.170	2.772

The average number of credits attempted at JMU by the transfers was 54, and the average number completed was also 50. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 88.

The average GPA at JMU of the PVCC transfers was 2.772. This was lower than their average GPA at PVCC (3.17), but only slightly lower than the average GPA of all JMU students (2.85). The highest JMU GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 1.285. PVCC programs in which the JMU transfers' average GPA was 3.0 or higher were Fine Arts (3.496), Education (3.098), and Science (3.068). Because the average GPA of the PVCC transfers at JMU was only slightly lower than that of all JMU students, one can only conclude that PVCC transfers to JMU performed successfully academically.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (LONGWOOD COLLEGE)

Eight of the transfers to Longwood (72.7%) were graduates of PVCC and 6 (60%) majored in the same subject area at Longwood that they had at PVCC (see Table 5). Six of the transfers (54.5%) had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, and 4 of these (66.7%) also majored in Business at Longwood. Two (18.2%) had majored in Education at PVCC, two in Liberal Arts, and one in General Studies. Both of the Liberal Arts transfers majored in a related area at Longwood, and both of the Education transfers did not.

TABLE 5: PVCC Transfers to Longwood College (1991-92)

PVCC Program LW	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	5	1	4	2	29	28	86	2.555	2.263
Education	1	1		2	28	28	88	2.714	2.959
General Studies	1		N/A	N/A	30	23	92	2.417	1.700
Liberal Arts	1	1	2		31	28	77	2.794	2.440
All Programs	8	3	6	4	29	27	85	2.609	2.365

The average number of credit hours attempted by the PVCC transfers at Longwood was 29, and the average number completed was also 27. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 85.

The average GPA at Longwood of the PVCC transfers was 2.365. This was lower than the average GPA at PVCC of these same transfers (2.609). The highest Longwood GPA was 3.37, and the lowest was 1.70. While 3 of the 11 transfers had GPA's lower than 2.0, only one had a GPA of 3.0 or greater.

Because 7 of the 11 transfers had GPA's of 2.5 or lower, and because the average GPA at Longwood was the lowest average GPA of any senior institution reporting data to PVCC, one can only assume that the PVCC transfers to Longwood did not perform as well academically as other students at Longwood. Note, however, that the average GPA of the Longwood transfers at PVCC was also the lowest GPA of any group of transfer students. In this respect, as was the case with the GMU transfers, the transfer students to Longwood were not among PVCC's best academically, and their performance at Longwood probably reflects this.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY)

Only three of the transfer students to ODU (30%) were graduates of PVCC and none majored in the same subject area at ODU that they had at PVCC (see Table 6). Three of the transfers had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, and 3 had majored in General Studies. Of the remaining transfers, 2 had majored in Science at PVCC and 2 were shown in the PVCC database as non-degree students.

TABLE 6: PVCC Transfers to Old Dominion University (1991-92)

PVCC Program / ODU	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	2	1		3	30	28	118	3.492	2.919
General Studies	1	2	N/A	N/A	24	22	59	2.723	2.640
Science		2		2	30	25	73	3.000	2.226
Non Degree		2	N/A	N/A	31	28	110	3.875	3.595
All Programs	3	7	0	5	28	25	90	3.194	2.849

The average number of credit hours attempted by the PVCC transfers at ODU was 28, and the average number completed was 25. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 90. The average GPA at ODU of the PVCC transfers was 2.849. This was slightly lower than the average PVCC GPA of these students (3.194). The highest GPA at ODU was 3.92 and the lowest 1.30. Only one student (10%) had a GPA below 2.0 and 4 (40%) had GPA's above 3.0.

The average GPA of the ODU transfers was one of the three highest of any group of PVCC transfers and was probably comparable to the average GPA of all ODU students. In this respect, one can only conclude that the transfer experience of these students was successful.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (THE UNIVERSITY OF VIRGINIA)

As is the case almost every year, the largest number of PVCC students and graduates transferring to four-year colleges and universities were enrolled at UVa. Of the 139 transfers to UVa in 1991-92, slightly less than half (n=61; 43.9%) were PVCC graduates (see Table 7). The majority, however, majored in the same subject area at UVa they had at PVCC (n=64; 63.4%).

TABLE 7: PVCC Transfers to the University of Virginia (1991-92)

PVCC Program / UVA	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	18	5	19		27	27	88	3.450	2.829
Career Studies		1		1	16	16	80	4.000	3.769
Clerical Studies	1			1	45	45	104	3.843	3.800
Drafting & Design	2		1	1	23	23	86	3.511	2.826
Education	1	1	1	1	47	45	111	3.314	2.807
Engineering		1	1		14	11	48	4.000	1.564
Fine Arts	1			1	59	59	134	3.490	3.061
General Studies	3	12	N/A	N/A	28	25	75	3.565	2.913
Liberal Arts	14	30	26	18	27	26	79	3.586	3.029
Management	2		1	1	50	50	107	3.540	3.052
Marketing	1	1		2	18	18	78	3.615	2.747
Nursing	11		11		14	14	65	3.145	3.416
Science	7	4	4	7	20	18	76	3.412	2.243
Non Degree		23	N/A	N/A	29	29	78	3.729	3.332
All Programs	61	78	64	37	27	26	80	3.485	3.029

The PVCC program in which the largest number of UVa transfers had majored was Liberal Arts (n=44; 31.7%). Fourteen of the Liberal Arts transfers (31.8%) were graduates of PVCC, and 19 (82.6%) majored in a liberal arts major at UVa. The PVCC program with the second largest number of UVa transfers was Business Administration (n=23; 16.5%). Eighteen (78.3%) of the Business Administration transfers were PVCC graduates, and 19 (82.6%) majored in Business at UVa.

Other PVCC programs in which the UVa transfers had been enrolled were General Studies (n=15; 10.8%), Science (n=11; 7.9%), Nursing (n=11; 7.9%), Drafting and Design (n=2; 1.4%), Education (n=2; 1.4%), Management (n=2; 1.4%), Marketing (n=2; 1.4%), Career Studies (n=1; 0.7%), Clerical Studies (n=1; 0.7%), Engineering (n=1; 0.7%), and Fine Arts (n=1; 0.7%). Twenty-three (16.5%) of the UVa transfers were listed as non-degree seeking in the PVCC database.

The average number of credits attempted at UVa by the transfers was 27, and the average number completed was 26. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 80.

The average GPA at UVa of the 1991-92 PVCC transfers was 3.029. This was only slightly lower than the average GPA of all UVa undergraduate students in 1991-92 (3.104). The highest PVCC transfer GPA was 4.0, and the lowest 1.2. The average GPA of the UVa transfers while students at PVCC was 3.485. PVCC programs in which more than one student transferred and transfers earned average GPA's of 3.0 or higher were Nursing (3.416), Management (3.052), and Liberal Arts (3.029).

These GPA figures suggest that not only does PVCC transfer the most students to UVa, but it transfers its *best* students there, as well. Certainly, PVCC transfers to UVa performed well academically.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE & STATE UNIVERSITY)

Thirty-two PVCC students or graduates completed applications for admission to VPI for the academic year 1991-92. Seventeen of the applicants were offered admission, 7 accepted, and 7 actually enrolled.

TABLE 8: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (1991-92)

PVCC Program / VPI	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	2			2	40	40	82	3.211	2.888
Education		1	1		28	23	67	3.018	2.610
Electronics	1			1	26	21	58	2.698	1.760
Liberal Arts	1	1	1	1	34	34	81	2.888	2.589
Science		1		1	24	16	54	2.233	1.960
All Programs	4	3	2	5	32	30	72	2.817	2.534

Of the 7 PVCC transfers to VPI, 4 (57.1%) were graduates of PVCC and 2 (28.6%) majored in the same subject area they had at PVCC (see Table 8). Two of the transfers had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, and one each had majored in Education, Electronics, Liberal Arts, and Science. The transfers in Education and Liberal Arts majored in related areas at VPI; the remainder did not.

The average number of credits attempted at VPI by the transfers was 32, and the average number completed was 30. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 72. The average GPA at VPI of the PVCC transfers was 2.534. This was slightly lower than the GPA of these same transfers at PVCC (2.817). The highest GPA at VPI was 3.04, and the lowest 1.76. Two of the transfers had GPA's at VPI of less than 2.0, and only one had a GPA above 3.0. These figures suggest that the PVCC transfers did not perform academically as well as other students at VPI.

THE ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE OF PVCC TRANSFERS (VIRGINIA COMMONWEALTH UNIVERSITY)

Twenty former PVCC students and graduates were enrolled at VCU in 1991-92. As can be seen in Table 9, only 5 (25%) of these were graduates of PVCC, but the majority (71.4%) majored in the same subject areas they had at PVCC. Four (25%) of the transfers had majored in Business Administration at PVCC, 4 (25%) in General Studies, 3 (30%) in Fine Arts, 2 each (20%) in Liberal Arts and Nursing, and one each (10%) in Career Studies, Education, and Secretarial Science. Two (20%) were listed in PVCC's database as non-degree seeking.

TABLE 9: PVCC Transfers to Virginia Commonwealth University (1991-92)

PVCC Program / VCU	Graduate PVCC		Same Major at 4-Yr College		Avg Cred Attempt 4-Yr	Avg Cred Complete 4-Yr	Avg Total Credits	Avg PVCC GPA	Avg 4-Yr GPA
	YES	NO	YES	NO					
Business Administration	2	2	3	1	14	12	67	3.459	2.620
Career Studies		1		1	29	29	68	4.000	3.930
Education		1		1	19	19	67	3.980	3.680
Fine Arts		3	3		20	17	31	3.149	2.392
General Studies	1	3	N/A	N/A	24	20	52	2.864	2.312
Liberal Arts		2	2		22	21	76	2.592	3.112
Nursing	2		2		16	16	52	2.795	3.514
Secretarial Science		1		1	29	23	88	1.837	2.030
Non Degree		2	N/A	N/A	23	23	40	3.184	3.389
All Programs	5	15	10	4	20	18	56	3.066	2.935

The average number of credits attempted at VCU by the transfers was only 20, and the average number completed was 18. The average number of total credits of the transfers was 56.

The average GPA at VCU of the PVCC transfers was 2.935. The average GPA at PVCC of these transfers was only slightly higher (3.066). The highest VCU GPA was 4.0.

and the lowest 1.13. Only 3 (15.8%) of the transfer students to VCU had GPA's below 2.0 and only 3 had GPA's between 2.0 and 3.0. The remainder (68.4%) had GPA's of 3.0 or higher. These figures indicate that in all likelihood the PVCC transfers to VCU performed academically at least as well as all VCU students and were successful in their transfer goals.

CONCLUSIONS

The majority of PVCC transfers to Virginia public senior institutions of higher education in 1991-92 transferred to UVa (45.4%) and JMU (35.3%). The majority of transfers were not graduates of PVCC (55.9%) but majored in the same subject area they had at PVCC (55.8%). The three PVCC programs transferring the most students were Business Administration (24.2%), Liberal Arts (23.9%), and General Studies (12.1%).

Academically, as measured by GPA, PVCC transfers to four-year schools performed about as well as all students at the four-year schools. The average GPA of all PVCC transfers was 2.813. The average GPA at UVa was 3.029 and the average GPA at JMU was 2.772. What these grade point averages suggest is that for the most part PVCC students continue their academic success when they become upperclass students in Virginia's senior institutions of higher education.